

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th July 2023 at Doddington Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr Maria Cook, Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Andy Jones, Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr Paul Blakeway, Cllr Linda Clayton, Unitary Cllr Simon Harris and the Clerk, Sue Jones,

Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mark Humpage welcomed everyone to the July meeting.

161/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
Cllr Linda Clayton (Family Commitment) and Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler

161/02 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

161/03 Public Participation Session
Celia Gibb – Doddington Church
Celia Gibb came to discuss the potential development of the church to include a visitor information point. The Church has been successful in being awarded 2 grants for this project. This will involve getting mains water, toilets, and creating a drop in area with vending machines to attract walkers etc. The ambition is to create some parking places or a layby which would also be included. It was hoped that this could be included in Hopton Wafers Place Plan. After a discussion it was felt that the ideal place for the layby would fall in Coreley Parish. The Parish Council suggested to Mrs. Gibb that she contacts Coreley Parish Council and attends a meeting to share the plans for the Church.

161/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 were taken as read and signed.

161/05 Matters Arising
None

161/06 Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report.

Highways issues

Site Visit – A4117

Jon Eastwood has not come back with an alternative meeting, but we have had correspondence from Gwilym, regarding the consultation from Jon Eastwood. The majority of responses expressed support for the proposed revision. However, despite the majority of responses supporting a 50mph limit, it should be noted that the overwhelming majority of all the responses insisted that a 40mph limit would be preferable and better suited to the conditions. The Police communicated that the advertised 50mph limit would be more appropriate and in accordance with the recorded speeding data; Proceeding with the 50mph limit, is still the preferred option. It is hoped that the outcome of the consultation will be confirmed soon.

Vehicle Activated Signs

There are ongoing discussions with the supplier, regarding the installation of the VAS, and the permit and traffic Management needed.

Cattlegrid.

WSP are in the final process of completing the design and Pre -Construction Information needed to pass on to the contractors Kier. This will allow Kier to provide a price and programme date for the works. SC have been advised that a road closure will not be required to carry out the grid replacement and the works can be done under the existing temporary traffic management. As soon as programme dates and time scales have been confirmed. Kier's communication team will provide the necessary updates.

Village Hall Costs

After comparing the hire costs of the halls currently used for meetings, it was agreed to ask Doddington Village Hall if the Parish Council could have a fixed rate per meeting for the year for budgeting purposes.

Works to Earls Ditton Lane

Andy Wilde has acknowledged the email, and will provide an update. Clerk to chase in a couple of weeks.

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ii) Lengthsman Update.

Anthony Harman has been appointed as the Lengthsman. Unfortunately, due to a previous commitment Anthony has given his apologies to attend this evening but looks forward to meeting you at the August meeting. The list of the works that have been identified will sent.

161/07 Financial Matters

i) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation.

161/08 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs S Jones - Clerk's Wages (July) - £314.82 (Cheque)
- ii) HMRC – PAYE – (July) - £78.60 (Cheque)

161/09 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications:

None

(a) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

None

161/10 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Cllr Simon Harris reported that there were concerns in the Media saying that Shropshire Council will be bankrupt in a month. This obviously is not correct. Budgets are tight and reserves are low. Shropshire Council has reduced budgets to cut spend and make efficiencies. After the first 2 months £9M has been saved, out of the £50M needed.

Cllr Simon Harris informed the Parish Council that a Motion was being taken to Full Council to Stop School children having access to Vaping. The full Report available on the website.

Cllr Simon Harris is meeting with Highways Officer Andy Keyland on the 17th July, Cllr Buffery requested to join the meeting.

161/11 Place Plan

The Place Plan team have in May 23 started a 12-week engagement with Town and Parish Councils. In order to access CIL monies and improve the local infrastructure it is essential that the infrastructure (or any other relevant project) is included on the Place Plan. This is a dynamic Plan and new projects can be added at any time – but there is now an opportunity to dust off 'possible' projects and get them on to the Place Plan. There are several projects on the Place Plan that was published in 2019 that are still outstanding/ongoing. The Councillors are still considering if these projects are still required. To be adjourned to the next meeting.

161/12 West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner's Town & Parish Council Survey.

After a discussion Cllr Maria Cook volunteered to complete the Annual Survey on behalf of the Parish Council

161/13 Parish Matters/Highways

i) To receive any new Parish Matters

Footpaths – An email has been received regarding the signs at the public footpath that is accessed through the Church yard at Hopton Wafers. Cllr Mark Humpage to investigate

ii) To receive and new Highway matters.

There are several road signs by The Hillocks, that need attention as they are overgrown. To be included in the list for the lengthsman.

161/14 Future Agenda Items

161/15 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 14th August 2023, 7pm at Hopton Wafers Village Hall.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.42pm.